

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 AGR-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-07 EA-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NEA-10 NSAE-00

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FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASH DC 2753

INFO USDA/WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

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PASS USDA FOR WITCHER AND FRASER, FAS

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, OECD

SUBJECT: BELGIAN RESERVATION TO US PARTICIPATION IN OECD

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE SCHEME UNDER DEROGATION

REF: OECD PARIS 19458

1. AGATTACHE AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS REPORTED THAT HIGH-LEVEL OFFICIAL IN BELGIAN AGRICULTURE MINISTRY (ACTING DIR.GEN. DELVEAUX) ECHOED BELGIAN DELEGATE'S RESERVATION REGARDING A PERMANENT DEROGATION. ATTACHE ADDED THAT THE BELGIANS PREFERRED A DIFFERENT WORDING AND IMPLIED PREFERENCE FOR A NONPERMANENT (PERIODICALLY RENEWABLE) DEROGATION. HOWEVER, AS GORDON FRASER HAS RECALLED, BELGIAN DEL CREATED DIFFICULTIES WITH BIENNIAL RENEWAL PROCEDURE IN 1972. THOSE DIFFICULTIES WERE OVERCOME AT THAT TIME.

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2. AGRICULTURE DIRECTOR SIMANTOV IN PRIVATE CONVERSA-

TION WITH AGATTACHE ON JULY 5 EXPRESSED EXPECTATION THAT BELGIANS WILL WITHDRAW THEIR RESERVATION. SO DID EC COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE BRUDERER ON SAME DAY.

3. MISSION WILL LET PROPOSAL OF THE COM. FOR AGR. FOR A DEROGATION GO BEFORE EX. COM. AND COUNCIL IN EXPECTATION THAT BELGIAN DEL WILL WITHDRAW ITS RESERVATION.

4. UNLESS OTHERWISE INSTRUCTED, IN RESPONSE TO ANTICIPATED QUESTIONS IN EXCOM AND COUNCIL, US DEL WILL REPEAT WHAT US DEL SAID IN COM FOR AGR AND WILL EMPHASIZE THAT POSTPONEMENT OF A FAVORABLE COUNCIL DECISION NOW WOULD BREAK THE CONTINUITY OF OUR PARTICIPATION IN THE SCHEME. WE SHOULD PREFER TO AVOID SUCH A BREAK.
TURNER

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